

# Week 4: Forgiven

Luke 7:36-48

To be studied in preparation for October 7, 2018.

**Leader's Note:** This fall we are introducing an approach to group Bible study called "storying." Please refer to the resource, "Storying," available [on our website](#), for a detailed guide on how to facilitate storying in your group.

**this is life:**

A people apprenticed to  
the Life of Jesus

## Why We Have Gathered

Our common goal as apprentices of Jesus is to learn  
to be *loved by Jesus*, to be *led by Jesus*,  
to *become like Jesus*, to *lead others to Jesus*.

### Establishing "Safe Harbour"

*For us to open up to God and one another, the environment needs to be safe, and we each need to be safe for each other. Let's remember the following guidelines:*

- Listen* well; try to be aware of the impact of your body language and tone of voice.
- Tell *your own story* (not someone else's)
- Participate fully; be a *learner* (not a know-it-all) and welcome all questions.
- During our discussion, let's not try to fix, problem-solve or rescue; our first goal is to point one another toward the saving, life-changing power of Jesus, revealed in the truths of the gospel – what we call learning "*gospel fluency*."
- Don't rush to fill *pauses* or *silence*.
- Don't "*cross talk*" (side conversations apart from the group's discussion)
- Offer *grace, patience* and the benefit of the doubt.
- Respect *confidentiality*: (1) what's shared here, stays here; (2) don't share what you don't have permission to share, inside or outside our gatherings!
- Accept responsibility for *peace*; seek swift *reconciliation* of conflict and *make amends* for hurts caused.

### Entering Into the Story: Luke 7:36-50

**Setting the Scene:** *In Luke's theological biography about Jesus, we see both God's heart for both the poor and marginalized, as well as his grief over the hard-heartedness of the devout, who should have known him. In fact, the story we're going to hear today occurs shortly after Jesus calls out the hypocrisy of his critics, who have indicated that they will not follow Jesus no matter what signs he does to convince them. The story begins in the home of one of his critics.*

**Tell the Story:** The leader will tell **Luke 7:36-50** from memory.

**Rebuild the Story:** Let's open up our Bibles to Luke 7:36-50.

- *Walk through, chronologically, verse by verse, asking “Who, What, Where, When, How, and sometimes Why” questions. Where did the story-teller add or omit details?*

**Read the Story:** Read the story in one translation. If you have time, you might choose to read a second translation as well.

**Debrief the Story:** Let’s respond to the following questions:

- ***Who or what do you relate to in the story, and why?***
- *What picture or description caught your attention or came to mind as you listened?*
- *What can we learn about God (Father, Jesus, and/or Holy Spirit) from this story?*
- *What can we learn about humanity (us) or God’s people (the church) from this story?*
- *What can this story tell us about apprenticeship to Jesus?*
- *What other Scriptures or biblical principles does this story remind you of?*
- *How could you share this story with someone to help them grow in apprenticeship to Jesus?*
- *How will you apply this story in your own life? What is your “take-away”?*
- ***What specific action do you sense God asking you/us to do as a result of our conversation with Him through his Word?***

## **Praying for One Another**

Using the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) as a guide, and based on what has come to the surface in your sharing together, lift one another to God in prayer.

<p><b><u>WORSHIP</u></b> Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.</p>	<p>Express your thanks and praise to your heavenly Father for his work in your lives.</p>
<p><b><u>PETITION</u></b> Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.</p>	<p>Invite God to be King in the various areas of your life, as well as for practical needs, people far from God, the church’s mission and its leadership.</p>
<p><b><u>CONFESSION</u></b> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.</p>	<p>Repent of any sin, express forgiveness regarding any broken relationship, and ask for God’s help in bringing reconciliation wherever it is needed.</p>
<p><b><u>ENGAGEMENT</u></b> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.</p>	<p>Ask God to lead, protect and heal you wherever it is needed. Give time to listen and respond to the Spirit’s voice.</p>
<p><b><u>WORSHIP</u></b> For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Close by praising God for who he is, and for anticipated opportunities and answers to prayer.</p>